

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

29 AUGUST 1961
~~TOP SECRET~~



1. Situation in Brazil

The threat of widespread violence has come closer with the possibility of a head-on clash between forces favoring Goulart's succession and those opposed. The military chiefs, headed by War Minister Denys, are maintaining their refusal to allow Goulart's return to Brazil, and have ordered regional commands to arrest him if he attempts to enter the country.

In Congress a move to amend the constitution to bar a Goulart succession has been blocked, and sentiment there and among the public for a "legal" solution appears to have gained ground. The Denys forces have arrested a number of military officers in an attempt to forestall a military split, but the loyalty of the armed forces does not appear certain. Late reports indicate that Denys' control of the military forces in southern Brazil, especially in Goulart's home state of Rio Grande do Sul, is in doubt. Barricades were reportedly going up in the provincial capital of Porto Alegre and clashes may be imminent. Meanwhile, Goulart, in Paris continues to insist on his claim to the presidency. He is scheduled to meet there today with a group of Brazilian political leaders, and he is quoted as saying he will "make a decision quickly" after the meeting.

50X1

50X1
50X1

2. Berlin

The US Mission in Berlin has evidence that some form of conscription, hitherto only in the planning stage, may already have been instituted in East Germany. It sees this, plus the increasing public belligerency of the regime, as a sign that it expects a further worsening of the Berlin crisis and that it may be planning steps against Western access to Berlin even before conclusion of a peace treaty.

The East German press continues to claim success in its "voluntary" recruitment campaign, the last claim citing 47,000 enlistees

only 2,775 youths had been recruited as of 21 August, nine days after the campaign began.

50X1

50X1

50X1

50X1

50X1

50X1

3. Congo

The UN yesterday began "phasing out" its Katanga operation, and Tshombé has publicly agreed to eliminate foreign military personnel from the Katanga army. Despite UN assurances that it will not attempt the complete disarmament of the army, the Katangans remain edgy on this score.

50X1

50X1

4. Phoumi resistance to Souvanna stiffening

He told our embassy that at a recent meeting with South Vietnamese military leaders he had intimated that he and his followers would not accept Souvanna. Ambassador Brown believes that Phoumi's plan is to stall negotiations until the rainy season ends, hoping that enemy belligerency then will justify counteraction on his part, bringing, in turn, US, Thai, and South Vietnamese support.

50X1

50X1

NOTES

- A. Sukarno has made tentative plans to visit New York September 17-22 in hopes that the Belgrade conference will decide he should represent the non-aligned nations at the UN. [REDACTED] 50X1
- B. TASS announced yesterday that foreign submarines have recently been carrying out reconnaissance in Soviet waters, and that orders have been issued for "the annihilation of the violator " [REDACTED] 50X1
- C. Argentine Foreign Minister Mugica, who publicly attributed the Frondizi-Guevara meeting to US prompting, has resigned, saying that he was doing so to avoid the "slightest trouble" between Argentina and the US. [REDACTED] 50X1

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE